

Putting the Pieces Back Together

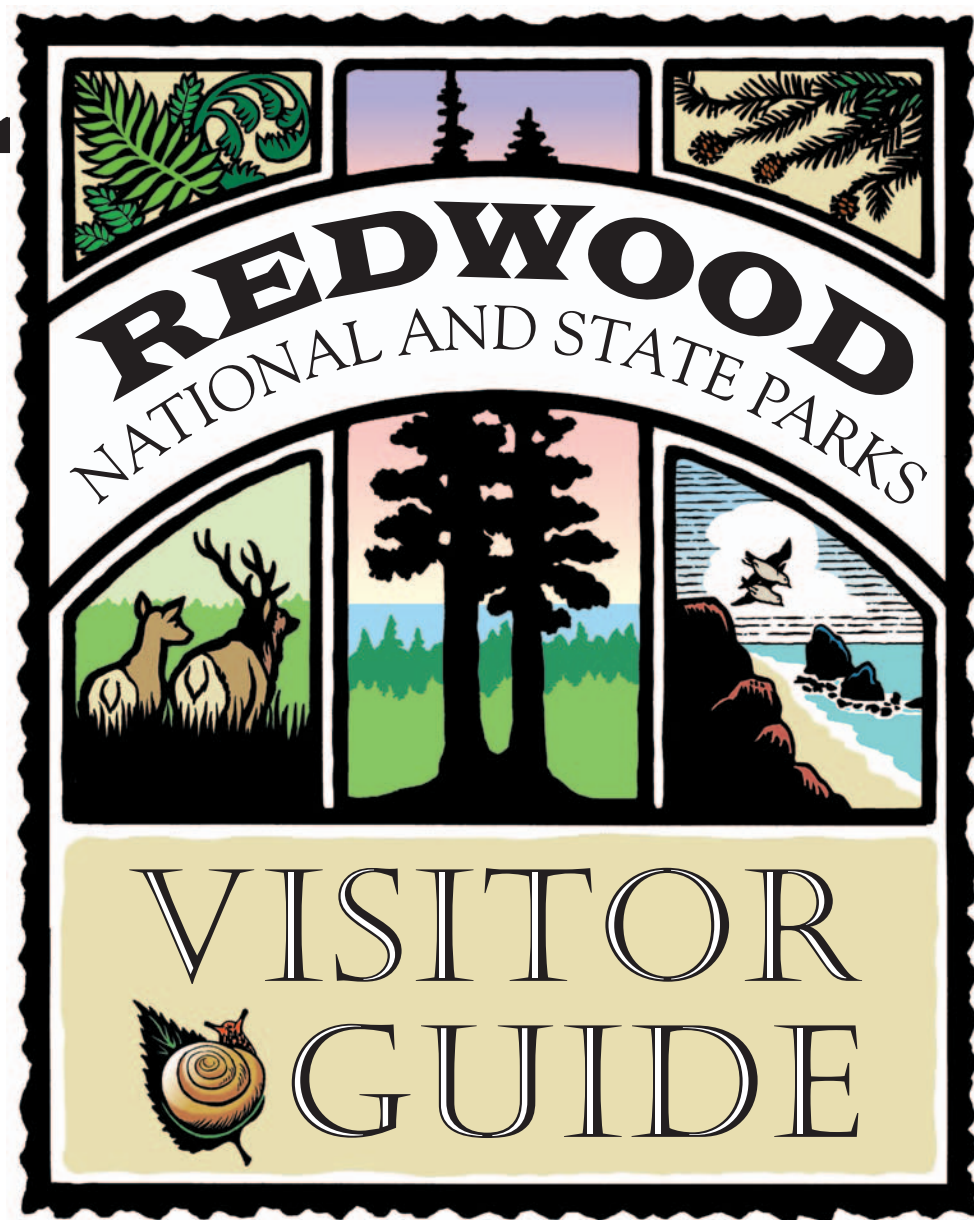
By Jim Wheeler

The redwood forest along Mill Creek stood tall and whole 150 years ago. From its headwaters on Childs Hill to the alluvial flats where it joins the Smith River, the Mill Creek watershed held within its ridgelines an ancient, pristine, and healthy ecosystem.

However, the untrammelled landscape did not survive the 20th century intact. By the early 1900s, Mill Creek's watershed had been pared into pieces, some pieces protected as natural reserves, others hungrily consumed by a growing nation. In June 2002, the chance to make Mill Creek watershed complete once more was realized when Stimson Lumber Company sold 25,000 acres of heavily logged land to the Save-the-Redwoods League (SRL) and the State of California. **In December 2005, federal legislation was approved to expand Redwood National and State Parks by including the Mill Creek watershed within its boundary.**

Reuniting the forests on the headwaters and middle reaches of Mill Creek with those of Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP) constitutes a milestone in the history of redwood forest conservation. With the entire Mill Creek and upper Rock Creek basins under the umbrella of public ownership, new restoration techniques and adaptive management can be used to encourage the now-young forest toward its ancient forest ways. The Mill Creek ecosystem can be made whole again.

Standing atop Childs Hill and gazing over the watershed, the importance of reunification becomes apparent. Mill Creek, a major tributary of the Smith River, is finally protected along its entire length. Below lies the sweeping expanse and deep canyons of the new parklands. In the distance, the dark green edge and rounded canopies of the ancient forest at the boundary of RNSP marks the lower portion of the creek, protected since 1929. Coastal views extend from Brookings, Oregon to St. George Reef Lighthouse six miles offshore.



MILL CREEK UPDATE: 4 YEARS LATER



Only 200 acres of ancient forest remain in five isolated stands, with the rest of the forest in various stages of regeneration. Its stream corridors are largely intact, providing a variety of habitats for area wildlife. Mill Creek has always been an important passage-way for anadromous fish. The most prolific coho salmon stream left in California also supports Chinook and chum salmon, and steelhead and cutthroat trout. While logging reduced or eliminated some plant and animal species, Mill Creek remains home to 23 threatened and endangered species. Next door, the ancient forests of RNSP act as biological reservoirs, filled with a myriad of plants and animals that will replenish the newly acquired lands as the forests mature.

North and east of the headwaters, the ridgeline of the Little Bald Hills marks the geologic boundary between the Coast Range and the Klamath/Siskiyou Mountains. Here sedimentary, shale, and schist rocks of the coast range meet continental peridotite and serpentine, nutrient poor mantle rocks and soils that host a variety of endemic plants.

Carnivorous California pitcher plants thrive in boggy serpentine soils edging the Klamath/Siskiyou bioregion. The endangered western lily and McDonald's rock cress are found here. Port-Orford-cedars, the tallest and arguably most beautiful cedars native to North America, flourish in this region. Across the South Fork of the Smith River to the east, massive snow covered mountains and the rectangular projection of Preston Peak dominate the skyline. Below, knobcone pine covered ridges east of Rock Creek reveal the serpentine soils of the Siskiyou.

The pieces of the Mill Creek watershed, tugged apart years ago for different uses, have come together. Acquisition of the Mill Creek and Rock Creek watersheds provides public ownership and protection of lands stretching from the rocky Pacific coastline to the snowy crests of the Siskiyou. Natural processes can return to an intact landscape. The pieces of Mill Creek, reunited once again, can recover their ancient forest qualities.



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Redwood National and State Parks Visitor Guide
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Visitor Activities

Come join Redwood National and State Parks staff in activities that are both fun and educational for the whole family. For schedules, times, topics, and locations of all programs listed below, check at the visitor centers or on campground bulletin boards. The campfire circles at Jedediah Smith, Mill Creek, and Elk Prairie campgrounds are wheelchair accessible.

ACTIVITIES: JUNE 11 – SEPTEMBER 3

Campfire Programs – Here's your chance! Learn more about a redwood-related topic. Varied activities may include narrated slides, music, games, or storytelling.

People of all ages can enjoy these programs given at:

- Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park campground
- Mill Creek campground in Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park
- Elk Prairie campground in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

Nature Walks and Talks – Be a part of the forest, sea, or prairielands. Join a ranger to learn more about the natural communities in one of the most diverse areas of the world. Offered at various locations and times throughout the parks.

California State Park Junior Ranger Programs – Children ages 7 to 12 are encouraged to participate in a fun and educational activity. Topics focus on the people, plants, animals, and life systems of the redwood region. Offered at Jedediah Smith, Prairie Creek, and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks.

Redwood National and State Parks Junior Ranger Program – Come to one of the five visitor centers to pick up a Redwood Junior Ranger activity newspaper (\$2.00). If you have a few days to spend in the parks, children ages 7 to 9 can complete four activities and children ages 10 to 12 can complete six activities to earn a patch. If you have one day or less, children ages 7 to 12 can complete three activities to earn a sticker.

Tidepool Walk – Discover the wonders of the sea! All tidepool walks meet at the Enderts Beach parking area near Crescent Beach Overlook south of Crescent City. The walk takes about 2-1/2 hours, tides permitting. For your safety, please wear shoes that have nonslip soles and can get wet.

Come prepared to ranger-led walks — Carry water and snacks. Wear shoes that can grip the slippery rain forest floor. Lock all valuables in the trunk of your vehicle. Keep your wallet with you.

SPECIAL EVENTS

OCTOBER – Discovery Ride through the Ancient Forest. Enjoy the parks on bicycle for easy 10-mile and challenging 28-mile rides in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. For more information, contact North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association at (707) 464-6101, ext. 5300.

OCTOBER – Bat Walk. Join us for a walk at night in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. For more information, contact North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association (707) 464-6101, ext. 5113.

DECEMBER – Candlelight Walk through the Ancient Forest. Experience the redwoods by candlelight in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Short walk and program are free to the public. For more information, contact North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association (707) 464-6101, ext. 5300.

REDWOOD FIELD SEMINARS

Ancient forests, colorful grassland prairies, deep rock canyons, and pristine river estuaries — these are your classroom for a day. For more than 20 years, Redwood Field Seminars have paired subject-matter experts with small groups of amateur naturalists for concentrated and personal day-long field trips. Redwood Park Association, a non-profit partner in the parks' education programs, directs the seminars.

Science, history, and recreation strengthen your connection to this grand landscape. Ask at a visitor center for detailed information. Preregistration is required. Call (707) 464-6101 ext. 5095. There is a fee for each course. 2006 programs are to be announced.

Visit our website at www.nps.gov/redw

WELCOME

The tranquility of a towering redwood inspires people worldwide. Even though these ancient forests are protected, great challenges remain and parks will become even more valuable in the new millennium with an ever-growing population.

The movement to preserve the redwoods on this part of the California coast took shape more than 75 years ago when Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park was established and further developed when Congress created Redwood National Park in 1968 and expanded the park in 1978.

In 1994 the National Park Service and the California State Parks agreed to cooperatively manage four parks — Redwood National Park, Prairie Creek, Jedediah Smith, and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks — as a complex to provide maximum resource protection and the best possible visitor services.

Redwood National and State Parks form a World Heritage Site and are part of the California Coast Range Biosphere Reserve, designations that reflect worldwide recognition of these resources as irreplaceable. They must be safeguarded.

We hope you enjoy your visit to these parks. Whether your adventures include hiking the many park trails or enjoying a tidepool walk with a ranger, please remember to be a thoughtful protector. When you depart, we hope you will take with you inspiration, memories, and an enhanced appreciation for these redwood forests. Please leave only footprints.

*Marilyn Murphy
 State Park Superintendent*

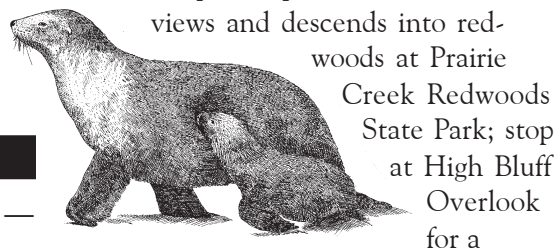
*Bill Pierce
 National Park Superintendent*

A Day in the Parks

If you have just arrived at Redwood National and State Parks and are wondering how to make the most of your time, try these suggestions to help plan your visit. Look for these place names on your official map and guide or stop at one of our five visitor centers listed on page 12. Suggestions are listed north to south. Driving time from the north (Hiouchi) to the south (Kuchel Visitor Center) with no stops is approximately 1 hour.

HALF DAY

- **Howland Hill Road/Stout Grove** — 10-mile scenic drive through old-growth redwoods, along Mill Creek, and past the pristine Smith River; 1/2-mile walk through river bottom grove of tremendous trees. Motorhomes and trailers not advised.
- **Enderts Beach/Crescent Beach** **Overlook** — Outstanding view from the overlook; 1-mile trail to Enderts Beach provides access to tidepools. Check low tide times. Take Enderts Beach Road, 3 miles south of Crescent City. Trailers not advised.
- **Lagoon Creek/Yurok Loop** — Birdwatching; 1-mile Yurok Loop Trail offers ocean views or hike 1 mile, one way to Hidden Beach and go tidepooling. Check low tide times.
- **Klamath River** **Overlook** — Watch for whales, other marine mammals, and seabirds; hike steep 1/4-mile trail to lower overlook for a more dramatic view. Take Requa Road.
- **Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway/Big Tree Wayside** — 7-mile scenic drive through old-growth redwoods; 1/8-mile walk to Big Tree Wayside; view Roosevelt elk in the prairie.
- **Davison Road** — View Roosevelt elk; 2-1/2-mile Trillium Falls Trail.
- **Lady Bird Johnson Grove** — Ridgeway old-growth redwoods on an easy 1-mile walk. Travel to Redwood Creek Overlook for a picnic; look upon the watershed and learn about watershed restoration from exhibits. Take Bald Hills Road. Trailers not advised.



Creek Redwoods State Park; stop at High Bluff Overlook for a picnic. Motorhomes and trailers prohibited on gravel section, see Official Map and Guide.

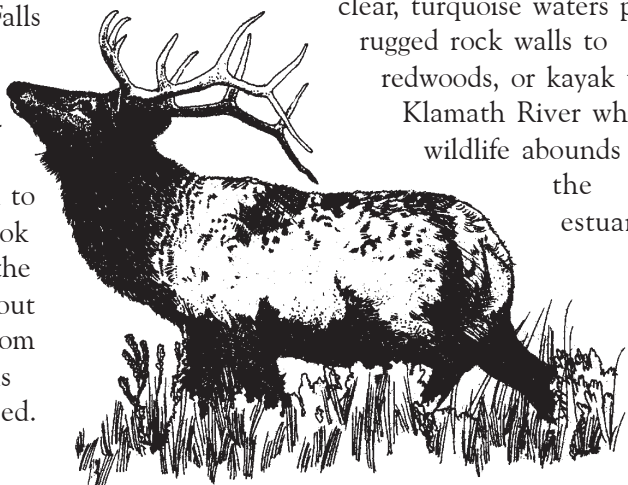
- **Brown Creek Loop** — 4-mile loop through old-growth forest with rhododendron understory, creek with salmon. On Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway.



- **Gold Bluffs Beach** — Go beyond Davison Road to access this isolated Pacific beach; continue to Fern Canyon and walk amidst 30-foot walls of ferns; birdwatching; many hiking trails into Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Day-use fee area. Vehicles with a combined length of 24 feet or more prohibited.
- **Lyons Ranch** — 4-mile-round trip trail along prairies to a homesteader's site, spring wildflowers; escape the coastal summer fog. At the end of Bald Hills Road. Motorhomes and trailers not advised.



- **Kayak** — Kayak the Smith River's clear, turquoise waters past rugged rock walls to redwoods, or kayak the Klamath River where wildlife abounds in the estuary.



WHOLE DAY

Add the following stops to those suggested for half-day visits.

- **Nickerson Ranch** — 2-mile hike among old-growth redwoods, along Mill Creek, over a moss-covered bridge, finish on Howland Hill Road back to your vehicle.
- **Damnation Creek** — 4-1/2-mile trail through old-growth trees to the ocean shore; steep scramble to access ocean. Hwy. 101, milepost 16, south of Crescent City.
- **Coastal Drive** — Rough 8-mile road winds past expansive Pacific Ocean views and descends into redwoods at Prairie

RECYCLING IN THE PARKS

Look for these two symbols for recycling and trash collection throughout the parks. You can also recycle newspapers in the campgrounds. Talk to a ranger or a camp host.

RECYCLE

Aluminum

Plastic

Glass

Tin



ONLY

TRASH



ONLY

YOUR DOLLARS HELP

The National Park Service's Fee Demonstration Program has provided funds for new interior exhibits at Kuchel Visitor Center. Installed in 2005, the exhibits help our visitors from around the world understand the meaning and the culture of watersheds.

Twenty-four new outdoor exhibits were added to the parks last year; find them peppered along the trails and roadways.

Additional fee money will relocate the parks' south entrance sign, develop a safe vehicle turn-out along Highway 101, and design five new outdoor exhibits for Freshwater Lagoon Spit.

Congress established the Fee Program in 1997 to assist parks in funding projects that improve visitor facilities and better protect park resources. The program allows for 80 percent of the fees collected at a national park site to stay within that park. Other parks such as Redwood do not collect fees. They compete for the remaining 20 percent to complete projects.

UserFee

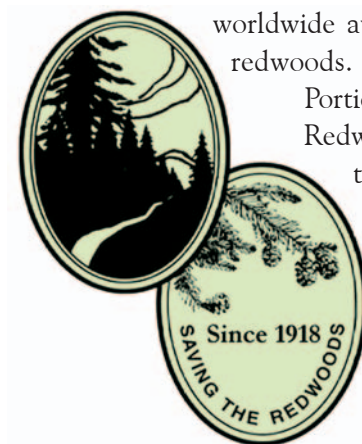
Improves this park



SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE

The road was dusty and the trip was long back in 1915 when three men traveled from San Francisco to see for themselves the towering trees and the impending effect of the ax. So impressed were Dr. John C. Merriam, Professor Henry F. Osborn, and Dr. Madison Grant that they immediately sought means to preserve redwood groves for future generations.

In 1918 they established the Save-the-Redwoods League and since then the non-profit organization has set aside more than 170,000 acres of redwoods. Through public donations and matching funds from the State of California, the League purchases stands of redwoods and helps to raise worldwide awareness of redwoods.



Portions of Redwood National and State Parks comprise land donated by the League. The brown

and gold signs seen along trails and roadways represent the Memorial Grove Program, started in 1921. More than 950 groves, named for individuals and organizations, have been set up, with more being added each year. They are instrumental in saving redwoods.

The Save-the-Redwoods League has more than 35,000 members from all over the world. If you would like more information about the League, you can contact them at 114 Sansome Street, Room 605, San Francisco, California, 94104, (415) 362-2352. The website address is www.savetheredwoods.org.



There's No Place Like Home

By Lynne Mager

The endangered marbled murrelet, one of the world's only seabirds to nest in trees, faces extinction in California. Marbled murrelets nest in very large coniferous trees within 35 miles of the ocean — a rare commodity after more than 150 years of logging. Old-growth trees provide large limbs for nesting, as well as canopy cover to protect murrelets from predators as they fly swiftly from their forest home to the sea and back gathering fish to feed their young.



The Mill Creek watershed once provided a prime neighborhood for murrelet breeding, but forest fragmentation has taken its toll. Today, less than one percent of the Mill Creek property is old growth. Envision adult murrelets trying to avoid densely-packed, even-aged stands of trees at speeds up to 60 miles per hour, then flying out in the open over clear-cut land — a dangerous way to travel, indeed. In addition, fragmented forests and trash left by humans attract ravens and jays, birds that feed on murrelet eggs and chicks. Although it could take hundreds of years for second-growth stands to mature into suitable nesting habitat on their own, thinning crowded stands will accelerate the process and encourage more marbled murrelets to again call Mill Creek home.

You can help the plight of the murrelet. Please attend to all food items at your camp or picnic area and on trails. Leave no crumb behind! Together, we can ensure a place in the wild for a rare bird.

Mill Creek

challenges us to think about the long term promise. A tributary of the Smith River, Mill Creek travels through the northernmost region of redwoods and boasts strong populations of salmon. The acquisition of Mill Creek completes an entire watershed and forms habitat links between the coast redwood forest and inland forests of the Klamath-

The Most Important Groves

By Jeff Denny

With dark green spires towering 300 feet above steep canyons and massive trunks dwarfing the forest bedding, the redwoods of Mill Creek astounded Stephen Mather and Madison Grant in the summer of 1919. Mather, director of the National Park Service, and Grant, cofounder of the Save-the-Redwoods League (SRL), proclaimed the Mill Creek redwoods "the most important groves" in northern California. Mather added, "As Del Norte County is somewhat remote it may be immune for a short time from serious inroads by the axe and there is no doubt that the Smith River redwoods should be acquired for a National Park."

The towering redwoods would not be remote for long. Paving of the Redwood Highway in 1915 drew tourists who marveled at these quiet giants, while timber tractors and saws reached deeper into the forests. A

1915 Del Norte County advertisement proclaimed, "There is enough timber in this country to keep a dozen mills at work for a thousand years."

Mill Creek's redwoods had felt the sharp edge of the axe as early as the 1850s. The needs of a growing population and post-War industrial innovations accelerated consumption of the northern redwoods. By 1920, nearly one third of California's original redwoods had been converted to shingles, building materials, and railroad ties.

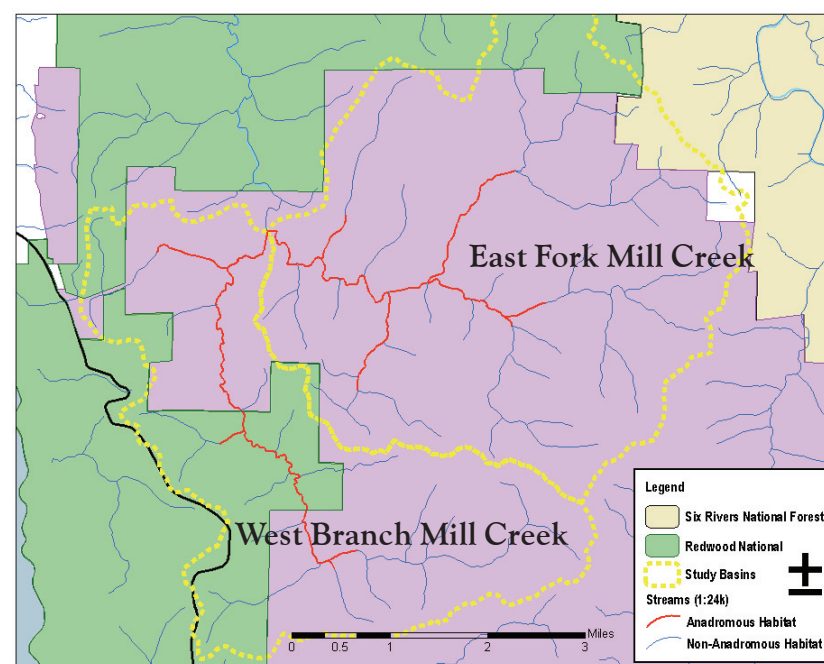
The time to protect Mill Creek's trees was now, Mather determined, but Congress failed to act. Between 1911 and 1947, Congress rejected six different proposals to create a Redwood National Park. Meanwhile, Grant's Save-the-Redwoods League worked tirelessly to acquire redwood groves through private donations. In

the 1920s, land purchased by the League created the first redwood state parks in California. The redwoods of the lower Mill Creek drainage found protection within Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, but the remaining 25,000 acres of its giant trees gradually disappeared.

The last and best chance to save the Mill Creek giants came in 1964. Proponents of a large national park finally found a willing audience in Washington. However, advocates for a new Redwood National Park along Redwood Creek won the day, and by 2000 only 200 acres of old-growth forest remained in Mill Creek.

Today, Mill Creek joins Redwood National and State Parks as a complete watershed, but only as a shell of the healthy ecosystem of the past. Our responsibility in the 21st century is to restore the life and health of one of our most important redwood groves.

UPDATE: A Tale of Two Forks



By Lynne Mager

Why would the west branch of Mill Creek produce twice as many salmon smolts as the east fork of the very same creek? Logging commenced in the west branch in 1908 and continued until 1920. The countryside then turned to sheep and cattle raising and luckily, some trees were left standing. Logging in the east branch began in 1954. By then, new technology and forestry practices stripped the landscape of trees straight down to the creek. Salmon need big trees shading the streamside to keep the water cool. But that's not all. From 1970 to 1980, the east fork was cleaned out of "large woody debris." Large fallen logs create pools that are essential for salmon spawning.

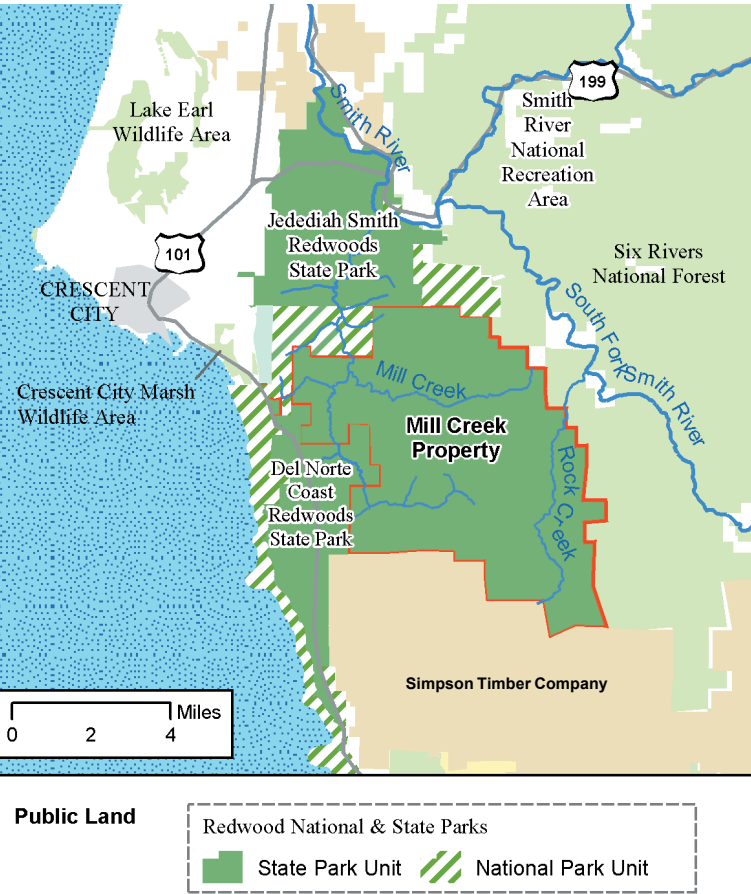
A tale of two forks tells us about habitat. The west branch has had more time to recover from fewer impacts on the land and the riparian corridor. It has twice the "wood" in its water to support salmon growth.

In the past 11 years, researchers have been "following the critters" to see what's happening to fish populations. The west branch boasted 37,000 smolts over those years while the east fork produced only half as many juveniles. The fish study, initiated in 1980, will continue to conjure up more accurate "fish tales" in the future.



Photo by Paul Albro

Siskiyou bioregion. After 50 years of timber harvesting, the forest is protected and can grow again for thousands of years. Careful restoration techniques will stimulate large tree development, including a multi-layered forest canopy that supports diverse plant and wildlife. Mill Creek — a place to visit the wild creatures, hike the misty redwoods, and find solace. We are four years into the promise.



Save-the-Redwoods League, California Department of Fish and Game, Coastal Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Smith River Alliance, California Conservation Corps, National Park Service, and California Department of Parks and Recreation staff have contributed to restoration efforts.

UPDATE: Regaining the Wild

By Debbie Weist

Standing on this old spur road — one of the hundreds of miles of abandoned logging roads weaving through the Mill Creek addition — I am captivated by the full and roaring Rock Creek below me. For the first time, I truly understand what it means to protect a whole watershed. Second-growth forest lies on either side of me. Stretching to the horizon, my eyes follow the undulating coastal range inside Six Rivers National Forest. Behind me lies the reason for my visit.

Since 2002, park crews have assessed the intricate network of roads and begun the long process of road removal. Through more than 30 years of trial and success in Redwood Creek (in the southern end of the parks), managers developed revolutionary methods of recontouring hillslopes and reshaping landscapes using excavated debris from earlier road construction.

Why remove the roads? Roads require maintenance and repairs. Without routine upkeep, culverts plug and streams are diverted, resulting in excessive erosion and unnatural landslides. The increased sedimentation in streams destroy crucial habitat for salmon spawning and rearing. Roads also fragment habitat, reducing home ranges for many other animals. Removing roads increases the useful habitat for these animals, such as bear, lions, elk, and bobcat.

Gazing once more at the hillside before me, I notice the healing scars from the roughly 18 miles of road restoration already completed. With a little imagination, I can see the marks disappear over the next 20 years and envisage young healthy redwoods reaching for the sun, complete with lush greenery forming under the canopy. Rejuvenated, I return to the office, knowing the prospects for redwood renewal are in good hands. By removing roads, the foundation is laid for the ancient ones to return. By reclaiming landscapes and restoring drainages, native plants naturally populate the soil and animals find places to flourish. With these techniques, future generations will be able to enjoy a fully restored old-growth redwood forest.

Right. An excavator removes an old culvert from a washed out stream crossing. All road fill will be pulled out and the original stream grade reestablished.



UPDATE: Forest Restoration - New Beginnings

By Lathrop Leonard

Imagine a young second-growth forest — planted, say, fifteen years ago. The trees grow tall and narrow in neat, clean lines. Look closer. It's shady and dark. Little grows under the dense canopy. The lower and middle branches of the trees are dying. Competition for light and nutrients stunts tree growth. This forest was planted for timber production. But the goals for the Mill Creek watershed no longer involve maximizing timber revenues. Park objectives focus on how to encourage biodiversity and forest health, and eventually how to get historic old-growth forests growing here again.

The work we (botanists, forestry technicians) do today in restoring young forests will take many decades off the centuries needed to develop old-growth characteristics. We start by prioritizing areas with the greatest need for restoration. Scientists generally agree that very young stands (11 to 24 years old in Mill Creek) often

benefit the most from forest restoration. This is the most dynamic time in a forest's life. Many stands have more than a thousand small trees per acre, when historically we know there should only be 30 or 40.

The next step may sound counterintuitive, but in order to grow



big trees, we have to cut down some little ones. By reducing tree density, the remaining trees grow vigorously. Reduced competition also allows more light to reach the forest floor. More plants will grow, animals will return, and biodiversity will increase.

Nonetheless, we aren't simply removing trees. As we thin, we're also changing the mix of tree species to restore historic conditions. By cutting many of the Douglas-firs that were planted for timber production, we're encouraging redwood, Sitka spruce, grand fir, and western hemlock trees to play an important role in the forest's future. So far we've thinned about 500 acres. We hope to find funding to thin an additional 3,500 acres over five years.

Left. Second Growth: The uniform leaf canopy blocks sunlight, creating a dark, tedious landscape with little variation or diversity of plant and animal life.

Guided tours of Mill Creek by vehicles, bicycle, horseback, and foot are being offered to the public on a limited basis.





TOLOWA DUNES STATE PARK



For 2000 years, the Tolowa people lived in villages amongst the dunes surrounding Lake Earl and relied on the abundant fish, waterfowl, and wildlife supported by the various habitats. The diverse natural resources attracted fur traders, miners, and eventually settlers to the area.

Dense, old-growth stands of spruce, redwood, and Douglas-fir that once blanketed this area fell with the advance of settlers, loggers, and miners. Lake Earl was used to transport redwood logs to the mill that existed on its shores. Misnamed as a lake, it is actually a coastal lagoon with a mix of fresh and salt water. A naturally fluctuating lagoon periodically opens to the sea before being closed off again by a sandbar. Developers dreamed of its potential as a freshwater port and experimented with mechanical devices to control the level of water. During the first half of the 20th century, ranchers and farmers routinely drained the lagoon to create rich pastureland around its perimeter.

In 1977 the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Fish and Game began a series of acquisitions to protect this unique wetland and delicate area. Today 10,000 acres are administered jointly by the two agencies. In October of 2001, Tolowa Dunes State Park received full status and is one of California's newest state parks. It was renamed to honor contemporary Tolowa members of the region who have ancestral ties to the area. Together, Lake Earl Wildlife Area and Tolowa Dunes State Park encompass the West Coast's largest coastal lagoon, numerous ponds, abundant wetlands,

long beaches, sand dunes, coastal pine forests, and a wide variety of ecological communities supporting a diversity of plants, animals, and birds.

Lying within the Pacific flyway, Lake Earl and its wetlands serve as an important stopover for thousands of birds. The once endangered Aleutian cackling goose can be observed staging here every spring. Nearly extinct in the early 1970s, the population has recovered to more than 70,000 birds. Other notable species include bald eagles, osprey, and peregrine falcon. More than 300 bird species migrate to the

Lake Earl wetlands, but a few species, such as mallards and wood ducks, winter-over and nest locally. A 25-mile network of trails offers access to hikers, bicyclists, and horses. Bring your binoculars to enjoy the wildlife and scenery!

Location: Follow Highway 101 into Crescent City, turn northwest onto Northcrest Drive, which takes you to Old Mill Road. Drive 1½ miles to Lake Earl Wildlife Area headquarters and many trailheads. Nature programs occur weekly in the summer season. Pick up a summer schedule of events at park visitor centers.

For more information contact:

Tolowa Dunes State Park

1375 Elk Valley Road
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-6101 extension 5151
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/>

Lake Earl Wildlife Area

Tolowa Dunes Nature Store
2591 Old Mill Road
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-2523, www.dfg.ca.gov

Area Information

LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

ARCATA

1635 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 822-3619
www.arcata.com/

BROOKINGS

16330 Lower Harbor Road
Brookings, OR 97415
(541) 469-3181 (800) 535-9469
www.brookingsor.com

**CRESCENT CITY/
DEL NORTE COUNTY**

1001 Front Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3174 (800) 343-8300
www.northerncalifornia.net/

EUREKA

2112 Broadway
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 442-3738 (800) 356-6381
www.eurekachamber.com/home.cfm

KLAMATH

Box 476
Klamath, CA 95548
(707) 482-7165 (800) 200-2335
www.klamathcc.org/

MCKINLEYVILLE

P.O. Box 2144
McKinleyville, CA 95519
(707) 839-2449
www.mckinleyvillechamber.com

ORICK

PO Box 234
Orick, CA 95555
(707) 488-2885
www.orick.net/index.html

TRINIDAD

PO Box 356
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 441-9827
www.trinidadcalifchamber.org

NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

Redwood National and State Parks
(707) 464-6101
www.nps.gov/redw

For camping reservations call:
(800) 444-7275

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Battery Point Lighthouse Museum
PO Box 535
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3089
living history tours — summer only

Del Norte County Historical Society
577 H Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3922

Stone Lagoon Visitor Center
115336 HWY 101 North
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 488-2169
www.ncria.org

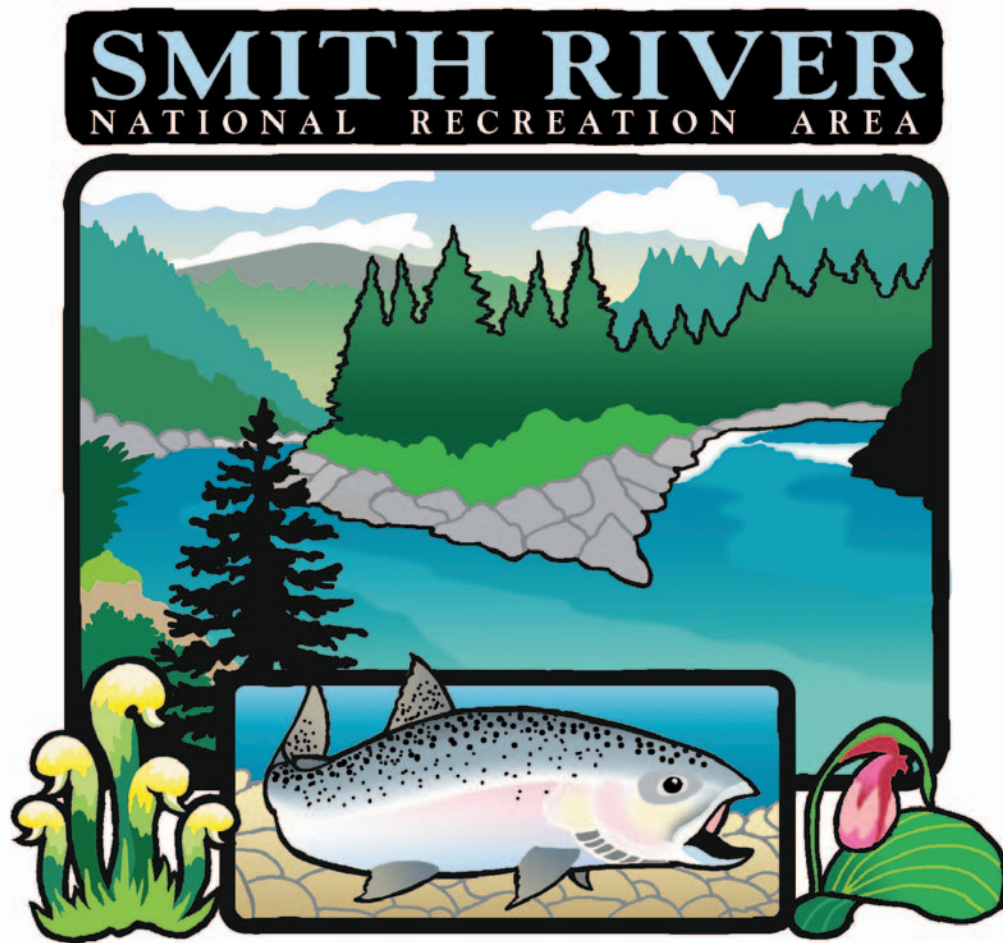
Northcoast Marine Mammal Center
424 Howe Drive
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 465-6265

Trinidad Museum
PO Box 1126
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 677-3883

LODGING

DeMartin Redwood Youth Hostel
14480 Highway 101 South
Klamath, CA 95548
(707) 482-8265
(800) 909-4776 ext. 733
www.norcalhostels.org

For fishing, horseback riding, kayaking, and other recreation, contact the local Chamber of Commerce.



The Smith River National Recreation Area (SRNRA) invites you to a scenic playground encompassing more than 450 square miles of densely forested mountains, pristine botanical areas, remote wilderness landscapes, high-mountain lakes, and rocky canyons. The Smith River's watershed contains more than 300 miles of forks and streams. Enjoy 75 miles of hiking trails and several hundred miles of roads, including the Smith River Scenic Byway.

Managed by the USDA Forest Service as part of the Six Rivers National Forest, the SRNRA was created by Congress in 1990 to protect the area's special scenic value, natural diversity, cultural and historical attributes, wilderness, wildlife, fisheries, and the Smith River's clean waters.

Dedicated and protected as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System, this crown jewel begins high in the Siskiyou Mountains and flows

freely, without a dam, for its entire length, the only major river system in California to do so. The SRNRA offers a year-round menu of recreational opportunities.

Winter Whitewater Challenges. Smith River tenders surprises for even the most seasoned boater on 145 miles of navigable whitewater with Class 4 and 5 rapids on all three forks.

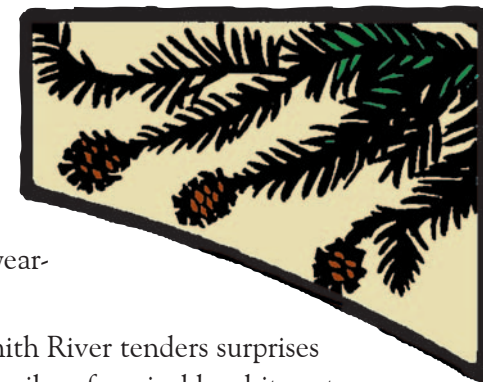
World-Class Fishing. Smith River's 175 miles of anadromous fish habitat presents exceptional runs of salmon (late October through December) and steelhead (mid-December through April).

The Smith River Scenic Byway along Highway 199 passes through four miles of coast redwood forests and along 27 miles of rugged canyons, turbulent rapids, and the confluence of the south and middle forks of the Smith River.

Camp along the River. Three of the four developed campgrounds in the SRNRA are along the Smith. Panther Flat campground is open year round.

Stay in a Lookout! Experience a night at the top of Bear Basin Butte (5,303 feet in elevation) and see for yourself what life would be like for a fire fighter. Go to <http://www.reserveusa.com/> and search for Bear Basin Lookout and Cabin.

For more information contact Smith River National Recreation Area, 10600 Hwy 199, PO Box 228, Gasquet, CA 95543, (707) 457-3131.
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sixrivers/>



What's that tree with peeling bark?

Madrone, a less common but distinctive understory tree of the redwood forest. More often it lives on hot, dry slopes. Madrone's fast-shedding bark can be dark red, bright orange, or beryl green according to the time of year.

Help Save Port-Orford-Cedar!

At home among other local giants, Port-Orford-cedars can live 600 years and their cylindrical trunks can extend 200 feet from flared bases. The delicate blue-green foliage hangs from sloping limbs like layers of textured curtains. A



moisture-loving North Coast native that grows from central Oregon to extreme northern California, the tree thrives in areas with year-round surface water.

Port-Orford-cedar has been cultivated into more than 100 horticultural varieties, blessing parks and gardens in Europe and America. Commerce has transformed the fragrant wood into boats, toys, arrow shafts, and ceremonial temples.



Today, an invisible enemy threatens to eliminate this handsome softwood. A parasitic root-rotting fungus that kills Port-Orford-cedar has spread throughout the tree's range in the past 50 years, killing seedlings within a few months and mature trees in four years. The disease probably originated in a commercial nursery, then moved into the natural forest. It travels through flowing water and the spores can live in the soil for seven years.

Help prevent the total loss of these cedars! Infected soil can easily be transported on shoes, equipment, clothes, and vehicles. When you travel in the Port Orford's range, inquire about contaminated areas. Scrape mud from your shoes, change into a second pair, and wash those shoes thoroughly. Avoid driving in infected areas. Respect road closures. Your efforts will help save biological diversity and wildlife support that contributes to forest wealth. Port-Orford-cedar locations in this area:

- Hiouchi
- Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
- Little Bald Hills Trail
- Smith River Nat. Rec. Area

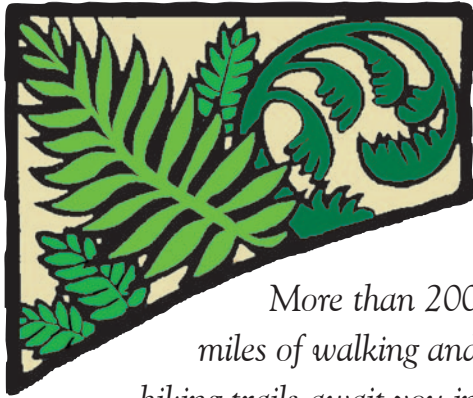


Association Support

Redwood Park Association and the North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association are not-for-profit cooperating associations, established to aid and support the education programs within Redwood National and State Parks. At each visitor center, the associations sell a wide range of educational and informational material covering the redwood forests, the seashore, and other natural and human histories. Proceeds from sales support the parks' visitor programs, museum activities, research, exhibits, and publications.

Redwood Park Association
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-6101 ext. 5095

North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Orick, CA 95555
(707) 464-6101 ext. 5300
www.ncria.org



More than 200 miles of walking and hiking trails await you in Redwood National and State Parks. The trails range in difficulty from easy walks to strenuous backpacking treks. They traverse a wide variety of natural habitats: old-growth redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, coastal scrub, prairies, streams, marshes, and unspoiled beaches.

Backpackers stay in designated campsites except along the Redwood Creek gravel bars. Enjoy the forest or ocean for 5 consecutive days; 15 in a calendar year. You can camp anywhere along Redwood Creek's gravel bars beyond the first seasonal bridge and no closer than within 1/4 mile of Tall Trees Grove. Be sure to obtain a permit for camping along Redwood Creek. Backpackers can collect up to 50 pounds of dead and down wood per day per campsite, except at Miners Ridge and Ossagon Creek (driftwood only). Obtain your overnight backcountry permit at a park visitor center.

Backcountry Basics

REGULATIONS

- ✓ Pets, firearms, motorized vehicles, and hunting are prohibited on park trails.
- ✓ Feeding or intentionally disturbing wildlife is illegal and carries a fine.
- ✓ Store food, garbage, cooking gear, and all odorous items in food storage lockers provided in campgrounds; food storage canisters, which are available at Kuchel Visitor Center; or suspended in a tree, at least 10 feet above ground and 4 feet out from the trunk.
- ✓ Mushroom gathering or possession is illegal.

HORSES

Horses are welcome on the following trails. Walk your mount when approaching hikers or riders.

- 🐾 Little Bald Hills Trail - access from Howland Hill Road
- 🐾 Mill Creek Horse Trails - access from Bertsch Avenue off Howland Hill Road
- 🐾 Orick Horse Trails - Check at a visitor center

Backcountry Horse Regulations:

- ✓ Permits are required for overnight use and can be obtained at visitor centers.
- ✓ Camp only in designated sites.
- ✓ Carry only pellets or weed-free feed.
- ✓ Animals may not graze park vegetation.
- ✓ Animals must be hobbled or tied to a hitching post when unattended.

HIKING SAFETY

- *Filter water or bring it to a boil to be safe from *Giardiasis*, an intestinal disorder caused by a microscopic protozoan.
- *River conditions in Redwood Creek can change at any time. When fording water that's above your knees, unbuckle waist and chest straps on your backpack. Brace yourself with a sturdy stick for solo crossings or interlock arms with fellow hikers. Seal important items in plastic bags.



- *To avoid hypothermia, stay dry (bring lots of good raingear); stay out of the wind; do not wear cotton, the new synthetics are better; use a hat and gloves to preserve body heat. If you experience uncontrollable shivers, slurred speech, and fumbling hands, hypothermia is setting in. Remove all wet clothing, get into dry clothing and a sleeping bag, and drink warm fluids.

Leave No Trace



Plan ahead and prepare: Inquire about the area you plan to visit; bring proper equipment; repack food into reusable containers to reduce trash; select terrain and mileage compatible with your entire group; know the regulations.

Camp and travel on durable surfaces:

Stay on established trails; do not short-cut switchbacks (it is destructive and illegal); don't clear new ground for camping; camp in designated campsites to limit impacts to the resource.

Pack it in, pack it out:

Pack out all unburnable trash; carry plastic bags for garbage; do not throw garbage into pit toilets; leave your site in better condition than you found it.

Properly dispose of what you can't pack out:

Use pit toilets when available or bury human waste in a 6-to-8-inch-deep cat hole 100 feet away from any water; wash yourself and dishes 100 feet away from streams/ocean; strain food particles from waste water and scatter it well away from campsite and 100 feet away from waterways.

Minimize use and impact of fires:

Strive to use portable stoves only; fires are restricted to designated fire pits (except on Redwood Creek gravel bars); collect dead and down wood only; keep fires small and contained; check fire danger level at a visitor center before you go.

Leave what you find:

Collecting or disturbing natural features, plants, rocks, antlers, and cultural or archeological resources is forbidden.

Backcountry Campsites

CAMPSITE	DeMartin	Elam	44 Camp	Flint Ridge	Little Bald Hills	\$Miners Ridge	Nickel Creek	\$Ossagon Creek
Number of Sites	10	3	**	11	5	3	5	3
Potable Water						◆		
Non-Potable Water		◆			◆			
Creek Nearby		◆	◆			◆	◆	◆
Toilet	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Fire Pit	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Food Locker	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Picnic Table	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Beach Access						◆	◆	◆
Permit Required		◆	◆			◆		◆

** 44 Camp is closed to horses, open to backpackers.

\$ Miners Ridge and Ossagon Creek are fee sites: \$3 per person per night.

Payment and parking for Miners Ridge and Ossagon Creek at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.

Dispersed camping is allowed only at Redwood Creek, which contains no amenities.

Check Redwood Creek height during winter when seasonal bridges are out.

ELK WATCHING



The northern redwood region's most often seen land mammal is the Roosevelt elk. One of the most popular elk-watching spots is along the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Elk Prairie is 35 miles south of Crescent City and six miles north of Orick. The open area on both sides of the parkway allows good year-round viewing of the herd, mostly females and calves. Large bull elk with magnificent antlers are commonly seen at Elk Prairie during the fall mating season. Calves are born in May and June.

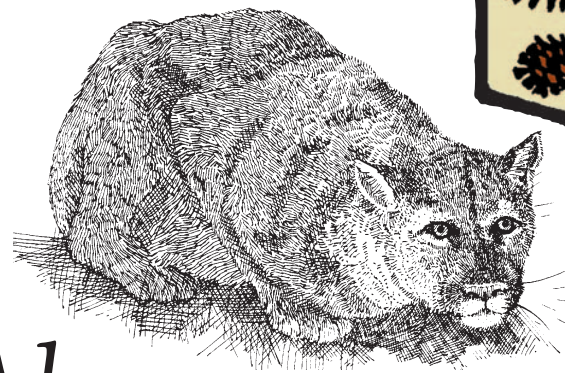
You may see elk a few miles south of Elk Prairie off Highway 101 along Davison Road. If you follow the unpaved Davison Road (motorhomes and vehicles with a combined length of more than 24 feet are prohibited) eight miles to Gold Bluffs Beach (day-use fee area) you may take advantage of the only opportunity to see and photograph these majestic animals on the beach.

Travel eight miles along Bald Hills Road (½ mile north of Orick off Highway 101; motorhomes and trailers not advised) to reach one of the most picturesque areas for elk watching. Oak woodlands and grasslands with Redwood Creek far below provide a grand backdrop for grazing elk surrounded by ancient redwoods.

South of Orick on the oceanside of Highway 101, lone bulls and herds of as many as 30 cow elk may be seen grazing at Stone and Big Lagoons.

Bulls of this largest subspecies of North American elk can weigh as much as 1,200 pounds and are aggressive in guarding their cow elk harems.

REMEMBER that Roosevelt elk are wild animals.
NEVER APPROACH THEM.



About Cougars

Cougars, or mountain lions, are large, seldom-seen inhabitants of Redwood National and State Parks. Like any wild animal, they can be dangerous. No attacks on humans have occurred within the parks, but mountain lion sightings have increased over recent years. If you should be among the few people to see a cougar, the following suggestions can help ensure a safe experience:

Prevent an encounter

- Do not hike alone.
- Keep children in sight; do not let them run ahead of you on the trail.
- Keep a clean camp.
- Be alert to your surroundings.

If you meet a mountain lion

- Do NOT run!
- Do NOT crouch or bend over.
- Stand up and face it.
- Pick up young children.
- Appear large; wave your arms or jacket.
- Do not approach the lion; slowly back away.

If a mountain lion attacks

- Do NOT turn your back or take your eyes off it.
- Shout loudly.
- Fight back aggressively.

Report all mountain lion sightings to a ranger immediately. Call (707) 464-6101 or stop by any park visitor center. A description of the animal, the location, date, time of day, the cat's behavior, and duration of the sighting can help park managers protect visitors and lions.

About & Bears

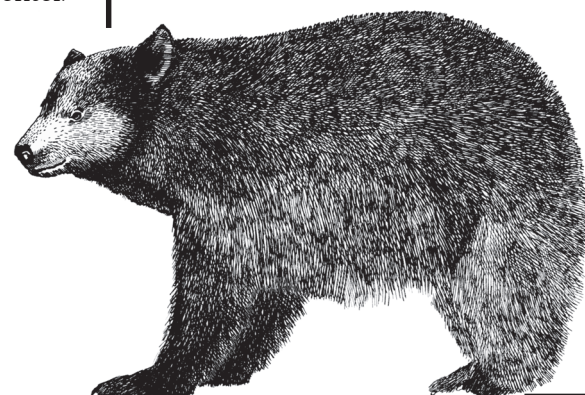
Like all animals in our parks, bears are wild.

Inviting them into your picnic or camp — on purpose or accidentally — can result in damage to your equipment, you, or the bear. Bears are memory retentive and quickly grow accustomed to human foods. Wildlife managers may have to destroy bears that repeatedly visit areas where they encounter people. So that visitors continue to enjoy seeing free-roaming bears, and to avoid personal injury, please follow these precautions:

- Keep a clean camp. A bear uses its nose to read your menu. Food odors will invite a bear to pay you a surprise visit — not a good thing.
- Store food in airtight containers or wrap it carefully. Use bear-proof lockers; when they are not available, lock food in the trunk of your vehicle and/or out of sight.
- Dispose of all garbage in bear-proof trash cans or dumpsters.

Animals will often beg for food. Do NOT feed them. Once fed, animals often become increasingly aggressive in their demands for more.

A Fed Bear Is A Dead Bear.





What Is Old Growth?



Coast redwoods are the tallest trees in the world. Many tower more than 300 feet.

Old-growth forest ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest are dominated by large conifers which range in age from 250 to beyond a thousand years. Twenty-five conifer species are in these forests. In southeast Alaska and coastal British Columbia, Sitka spruce tends to be dominant; Douglas-fir in Oregon, Washington State, and inland B.C.; and the stately coast redwood, largest of all, in northern California.

Younger forests share some characteristics with old-growth woodlands; however, only in old-growth forests are all of the following features present at the same time.

- **Large living trees and a multi-layered canopy.** Old and younger trees grow together in a mixture of species. The larger trees, 200 feet tall or more, have wind-damaged tops and relatively few large branches and thick growth of mosses and lichen harboring many insects, birds, and small mammals. The huge trunks often survive fires, for they are reservoirs, which hold thousands of gallons of water protected by thick bark. The uneven canopy is efficient at trapping moisture, even from thin fog during drier seasons. Bacteria living on the leaves of certain lichen capture nitrogen, essential for plant growth, from the atmosphere.

- **Large standing snags.** Dead snags may remain standing for more than 200 years. As their branches slough off, sunlight can reach the forest floor and allow species that require light, such as Douglas-fir, to germinate. Insects and woodpeckers open up the dead wood, providing habitat for many other species. In turn, these creatures become food for the northern spotted owl, marten, black bear, and other larger predators.

- **Large down trees.** Logs, 50 tons per acre or more in stands of Douglas-fir, crisscross the forest floor, helping to hold steep soils in place. Over a period of 200 to 500 years, as the logs decay, dozens of species of insects, birds, and mammals use them for shelter or food. All this activity helps raise concentrations of nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen in the rotting wood, and the rootlets of nearby live trees tap them for food. Like live trees, down logs can hold extraordinary amounts of water. Often rotten sapwood from such logs can be wrung out like a sponge.

- **Large fallen trees in streams.** Old-growth forests shape their streams in complex ways. Fallen trees lie in random patterns in small headwater streams. Since run-off is not powerful enough to dislodge them, such logs form semipermanent "staircases" that hold woody debris long enough for 70 percent of it to be processed as food and shelter by insects and bacteria. Fish benefit from the pool-forming ability of the forest floor by not only having the insects available for food, but also having shelter from storm run-off and temperature-controlled waters. Studies show that populations of large salmonoids, such as coho salmon and cutthroat trout, are directly related to pool volume on a stream. Given a choice between pools, large fish always congregate in the one with the most large woody debris. Fish are an end product of the old-growth forest. When northwestern fisheries declined disastrously after World War I, overfishing was blamed. Recent research suggests that this was instead the consequence of the destruction of old growth in the coast ranges, a distress signal that no one understood.

(Information from *Secrets of the Old-Growth Forest* by David Kelly; Gibbs Smith Publishers, Layton, Utah; Copyright 1988. Used with permission of the publisher.)

The Tall Tree

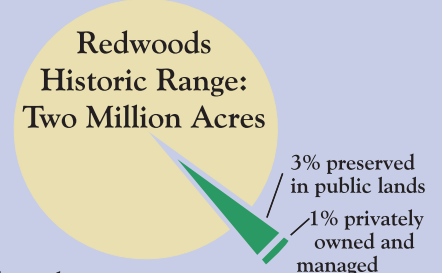
Area loggers' talk of "great timber" first led National Geographic Society naturalist Paul Zahl to Redwood Creek in 1963. On one particular trip, Zahl stopped on the cut-over ridge across from what would become known as the Tall Trees Grove to take some pictures. "While catching my breath, I scanned the treetops before me — then suddenly started. One particular redwood rose above the others like a giant candle. I had already measured its companions — all of them about 320 feet tall . . ."

The Tall Tree of Redwood Creek was measured at 367.8 feet and proclaimed the world's tallest tree in July 1964. As the torch of the environmental movement in the 1960s, it helped establish Redwood National Park in 1968.

In 1963 the top of the Tall Tree was green with foliage. At the time of its discovery, the forest on the opposite slope was being logged, opening the Tall Trees Grove to windier, hotter, and drier conditions. By the early 1970s, the Tall Tree's uppermost greenery had wilted and died, killing its upper branches and stem tip. Over the years the treetop flora stabilized and thickened. Then in 1989 during a winter storm, the top broke off, making the Tall Tree just another survivor in the ancient forest.

Today, there are other identified tall trees growing throughout the redwood region of northern and central California. All these trees have environmental qualities in common and a genetic heritage that allows them to attain exceptional height and stature. Growing on nutrient-rich alluvial flats (river bars and flood plains), protected from persistent winds by surrounding terrain, and developing dense stands that provide their own microenvironment, redwoods survive the seasons and the centuries.

What's Left of the Redwoods?



The wedge represents what's left of the old-growth redwood forest since logging began in 1850, 4% of two million acres. Redwood National and State Parks contains 45% of all old-growth redwood forests remaining in California.

DRIVE THROUGH A TREE?

Both giant sequoias and coast redwoods have served as drive-through trees that have fascinated travelers for years. Carving a hole through a tree reflects a time passed, a time when we didn't understand the significance of all organisms and their interplay within the environment. Now we know that the coast redwood is home to threatened and endangered species, animals that don't live anywhere else. And we know that, because redwoods do not have taproots, the mass that so inspires us to look upon them plays a major role in keeping them upright. The famous drive-through giant sequoia in the Mariposa Grove of Yosemite National Park fell in 1969 under heavy snow.

Today there are three coast redwood drive-through trees along the Highway 101 corridor in northern California. All are on private lands, all charge admission. From north to south, they are:

- Klamath Tour-Thru Tree in Klamath. Take the Terwer Valley exit.
- Shrine Drive-Thru Tree in Myers Flat.
- Chandelier Tree in Drive-Thru Tree Park in Leggett. Follow signs off Highway 101.

Whether we drive through, walk beside, or peer skyward more than 300 feet to the tops of these towering ancient giants, their scale and timelessness capture our imagination and inspire our care.

Four Longer Hikes

Banana slugs and elk tracks, black huckleberries and Sitka spruce — these are just a few of the wild things you may encounter on a hike amongst the coast redwoods. And no matter what time of day or year it may be, you're also likely to encounter a slippery path. Redwoods are notorious for their drippy environment. Wear raingear and shoes that grip the ground. Be aware of windy days. The limbs of the coast redwood are known as "widow makers" because they have been known to come crashing down during strong winds. Look skyward. You'll see branches bigger than your hiking partner.

Be sure to purchase a good map, not all trailheads are marked. At the trailhead, secure your valuables in the trunk of your vehicle; leave nothing showing through the windows. Please refer to the back of this visitor guide for a list of other warnings and regulations that you'll need to know. Ask at a visitor center for bicycle trails.

HIKE	LOCATION	TIME, DISTANCE, & FEATURES
Damnation Creek Trail	Mile marker 16.0 south of Crescent City	3 hours, 4-1/2 miles round trip. Steep. Travel through primeval redwood forest, where the canopy branches look like treetop arms holding thousands of plants. Be prepared, this trail plunges 1,000 feet. Arrive at low tide, carefully make your way to the beach from the bluff, and search for tidepool creatures. Whale watching, photography, and panoramic views.
Rhododendron Trail	From Big Tree parking area, hike south; take the Brown Creek Trail back to complete the loop; be sure to have a map with you	4 hours, 8 mile loop. Moderate. Striking sempervirens highlight this hillside route. A fallen mother leaves the rest of the family standing to form "cathedral trees." Fire can hollow out even the largest of redwoods. Walk beside fallen giants sprouting the trail's namesake pink blossoms. Encounter clintonia, leopard lily, windflower, milkmaids, and wild ginger. Check out the pebble patterns and fish in Brown Creek.
Boy Scout Tree Trail	Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, mile 5 on Howland Hill Road, north side	4 hours, 6 mile round trip. Moderate, some uphill. Classic mature redwood forest. Huge branches hang like elbows down the side of redwood trunks. Look ever skyward into the canopy to see another redwood tree on a massive redwood branch. Travel 2-1/2 miles to the fork that leads to Boy Scout Tree, a mammoth double-trunked redwood, and 3 miles to Fern Falls, a sparkling cascade.
Friendship Ridge/Coastal Trail	Gold Bluffs Beach, Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, start at Fern Canyon/James Irvine Trail	5 hours, 7-1/2 mile loop. Moderate along ridge, flat on Coastal Trail. Hike far away from traffic on a trail less traveled. Dense redwood forest opens up to windswept bluffs; connects with West Ridge Trail to Butler Creek. Watch for Roosevelt elk on the Coastal Trail and listen for the almost hidden waterfall.

Four Short Walks

WALK
Stout Grove

START

Stout Grove parking lot off Howland Hill Road, 7 miles east of Crescent City. In summer, access is available from Jedediah Smith campground.

TIME, DISTANCE, & FEATURES

1 hour, 1/2 mile, loop
Beautiful, easy walk in a river-bottom group of redwoods. Paved trail from parking lot area to redwood flat is fairly steep.

Simpson-Reed Nature Trail
"Barrier-free"

Park on shoulder of Hwy 199, 2 miles west of Hiouchi Information Center (6 miles east of Crescent City).

1 hour, 3/4 mile, loop
Flat stroll on self-guided nature trail with large redwoods, octopus trees (hemlock), and many redwood-associated plants.

Lady Bird Johnson Grove and Nature Trail

Bald Hills Road is steep (15 percent grade). Trailers and motorhomes not recommended.

Travel on Hwy 101 to Bald Hills Road (1/2 mile north of Orick). Turn right and travel 2-1/2 miles on Bald Hills Road.

1 hour, 1 mile, loop
Easy walk on self-guided trail through beautiful redwood grove. Distant views of ocean. Picnic sites available at the trailhead.

Cathedral Trees Trail/Foothill Trail

Big Tree Wayside

2 hours, 2 miles, loop
Moderate-to-easy hike. Start at Big Tree Wayside, walk to Cal Barrel Road, continue back on the Foothill Trail. Ancient redwoods, big-leaf maples along the creek.

Four Scenic Drives

DRIVE

Howland Hill Road

Improved gravel, narrow in spots. Large motorhomes and trailers are not advised.

START

Travel Hwy 101 south in Crescent City. Turn onto Elk Valley Road and drive 1 mile to Howland Hill Road. Can also be accessed 2 miles east of Hiouchi off Hwy 199. Follow signs to Stout Grove.

DISTANCE & FEATURES

10 miles one way
Giant coast redwoods, Mill Creek, trails to Stout Grove, Nickerson Ranch, and Boy Scout Tree.

Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway

No commercial vehicles are permitted

Parkway begins 6 miles north of Orick on Hwy 101, or 4 miles south of Klamath on Hwy 101.

7 miles one way
Old-growth redwoods, ferns, numerous trailheads, Big Tree Wayside, Roosevelt elk.

Coastal Drive

Gravel road for much of its distance. Motorhomes and trailers prohibited on part of gravel section, see Official Map and Guide.

From the north: travel Hwy 101 to Klamath Beach Road and follow to Coastal Drive. From the south: travel Hwy 101 to Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway, then 7 miles to Coastal Drive.

8 miles one way
Magnificent views of ocean, mouth of Klamath River and its estuary. Whales, sea lions, and pelicans often seen from overlooks. Flint Ridge trailhead about 3 miles from Hwy 101 on Klamath Beach Road.

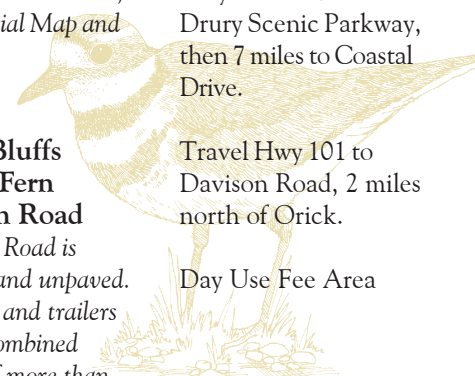
Gold Bluffs Beach/Fern Canyon Road

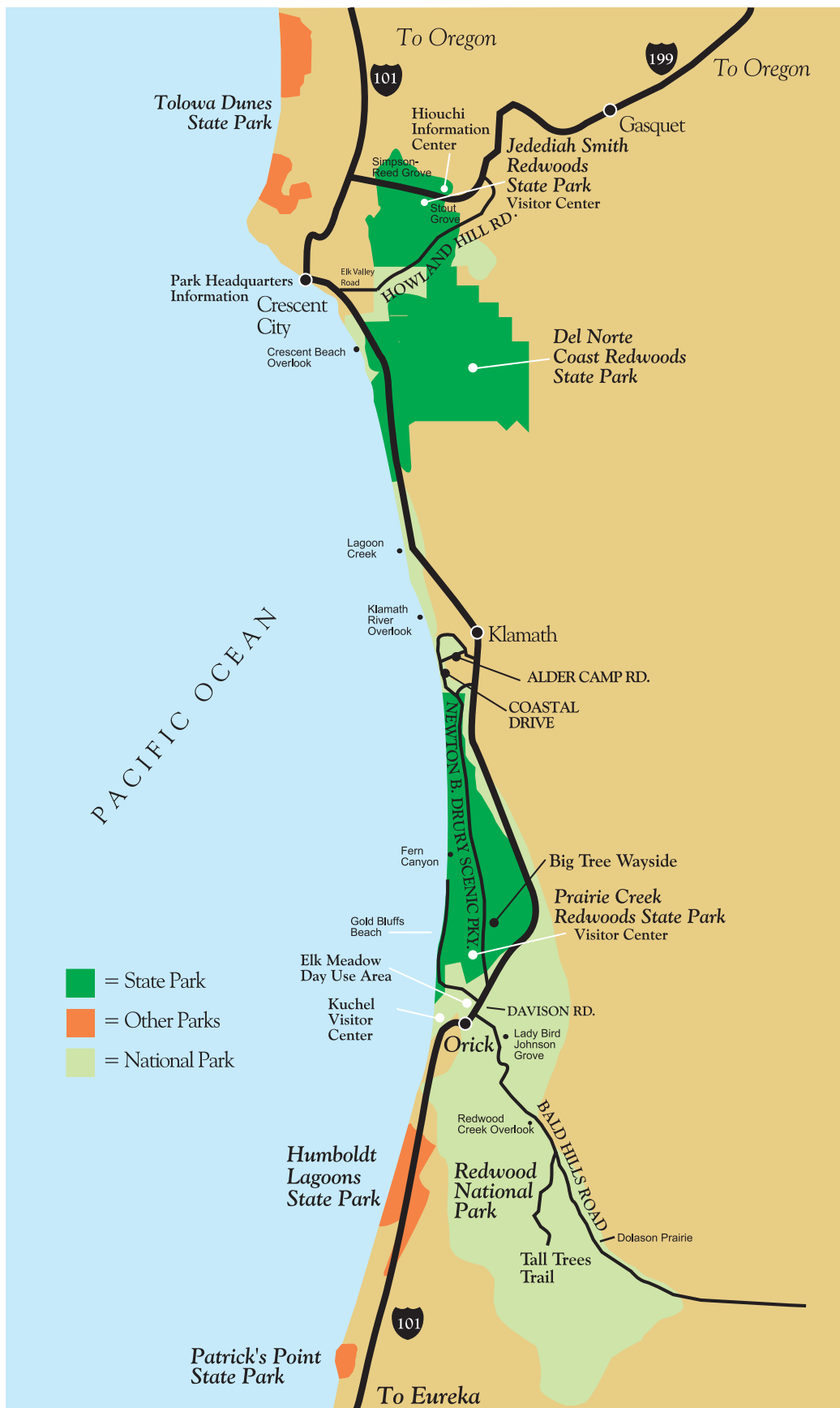
Davison Road is narrow and unpaved. Vehicles and trailers with a combined length of more than 24 feet are not permitted.

Travel Hwy 101 to Davison Road, 2 miles north of Orick.

Day Use Fee Area

8 miles one way
State park day-use fee is charged. 4 miles of spectacular beach, Roosevelt elk watching, Fern Canyon: a botanical wonder (30-foot canyon walls covered with numerous fern species).





Maps, Field Guides, & Books

Five visitor centers operate within Redwood National and State Parks. Available for purchase in these centers are a wide range of educational and informational material covering the redwood forests, the seashore, and other natural history topics as well as regional human history. Information and gifts for all ages.

Redwood Park Association and the North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association are not-for-profit cooperating associations, established to aid and support the interpretive programs within Redwood National and State Parks. Proceeds from sales are returned directly to the parks for visitor programs, museum activities, research, library operations, exhibits, and publications. Park maps, information, and publications are available at the following locations:

- **Hiouchi Information Station** — Located on Highway 199. Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. during the summer months.
- **Jedediah Smith Visitor Center** — Located in Jedediah Smith campground. Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. during the summer months, also during evening campfire programs. Winter months, when staff is available.
- **Crescent City Information Center** — Located at 1111 Second Street, Crescent City. Summer hours 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily. Winter hours 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
- **Prairie Creek Visitor Center** — Located off Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway. Summer hours 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily. Winter hours vary.
- **Kuchel Visitor Center** — Located one mile south of Orick on Highway 101. Summer hours 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily. Winter hours 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

All visitor centers are handicap accessible. ♿

What You Need to Know!

PETS—Pets are wonderful creatures that give comfort and companionship; however, a national or state park is not the best place for them. Domestic dogs or cats retain their instinct to mark territory with scent and may spread domestic diseases to wild animals. Unleashed pets may chase wildlife, causing the animals to be injured or leave their territory. Your unleashed pet may get lost and become a meal for a coyote or mountain lion.

If you bring your pet, please remember the following:

- Pets must remain on a leash under six feet in length while they visit Redwood National and State Parks.
- Your leashed pet is only allowed at Crescent and Gold Bluffs beaches, parking and picnic areas, state park campgrounds, and national and state park roads.
- Pets (dogs!) are not allowed on trails.
- Only guide animals are allowed in park buildings or at interpretive programs.

PARK ANIMALS—Remember these are wild animals. Let's keep them that way. Do not approach or feed any park animals.

PLANTS—You are welcome to harvest berries, but plants, mushrooms, cones, and flowers are protected and removal is prohibited.

LITTER—Place all garbage in trash cans or bear-proof receptacles. Do not stuff garbage cans to overflowing or place garbage outside of cans. Please use recycle bins found throughout the parks. Help keep the parks clean. Save a bear.

Be Aware!

POISON OAK—*Leaves of three, let them be.* Poison oak is found in various forms throughout the parks. Sometimes it occurs in vine form, climbing the tallest redwoods in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, but can also be found as a free-standing shrub. Look for the distinctive three smooth, shiny leaflets that are bright green or can be red in new shoots or during the dry season. Contact with leaves can cause an itchy skin rash, so wash thoroughly if you brush against its leaves. Stay on trails.



TICKS—Ticks that carry Lyme disease occur in this area. Stay on trails and check your clothing frequently. Dark-colored ticks can be seen most easily on light-colored clothing. Tuck pant legs into your socks and your shirt into your pants. Inspect your body thoroughly after a hike.

CORVIDS, MARBLED MURRELETS, AND YOU!—Corvids are those amazingly adaptable birds such as Steller's jays, common ravens, and American crows. Known for their antics, corvids are also known to follow easy food sources, e.g. trash, scraps, livestock feed, and bird feeder food. Once corvids find trash at a trailhead or a campground, they will repeatedly return hoping to find more easy human food.

The marbled murrelet is a robin-size seabird that nests only on large limbs high in the canopy of old-growth forests. As corvids repeatedly fly over former food sources, they may spy a murrelet nest. Corvids eat murrelet chicks and eggs, disrupting nesting patterns of the adult murrelet pair.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please properly dispose of trash at trailheads and campgrounds to decrease the possibility of corvid predation on marbled murrelets, an endangered species in California. Please do not feed any park birds.

TIDEPOOL ETIQUETTE—All tidepool creatures are fragile. If you pick one up, do so gently and return it to the same place—its home. Return all rocks to their original position, same side up. Tidepool life depend upon rocks for shelter. Plan your steps carefully. Slick seaweed covers the rocks; avoid injury to you and the tidepool creatures.

BEACHES—Plan ahead before exploring our diverse beaches. Check for storm or high surf advisories. Know the tides; tide charts are available at visitor centers. Expect sneaker waves—always face the water. Sneaker waves appear without warning and often surge up on the beach with deadly force. You cannot outrun a sneaker wave. If pulled into the surf, stay calm, call for help, and swim with the waves. Supervise children and have them wear a life jacket. Sneaker waves account for 63 percent of weather-caused fatalities on the North Coast.

TSUNAMI PRECAUTIONS—Earthquakes beneath the ocean floor can cause a series of large waves. If you feel a strong earthquake while on the coast, immediately move inland and to higher ground; a tsunami may be coming. Stay away from the coast. Big waves can occur for hours. Wait for an official "all clear" on the radio.



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